

TOWN LANDS COMMITTEE
MINUTES
1-9-07

Attendance: Bernice Kenney, Lee Overall, Jane Smith, Bob Waddle
Guest: Tony Barrett (Recreation Committee)

Minutes of Dec 5, 2006 were read and approved with a correction: the date 12-5-06 was missing from the Minutes. (Bernice will correct and send a corrected copy to the Town Office for the files.)

Because no one had a key to let us into the Town office, we convened our meeting in Bernice's SUV; the weather was very mild and we had dome lights that illuminated our gathering...Melinda will get a key and the code before the next meeting.

Old Business

Discussion –of the [The Selectmen's Response to Town Lands Memo Regarding Recommendations:](#)

Giant Stairs- Tony's assessment of it is that it has eroded places and is overgrown. Signs and "cairns" might detract from its "natural-ness". Graveled paths might be all that is needed to define the pathways.

Tony shared a bit of info that might be useful: on July 1, 2007, the Dept. of Labor will merge with the Dept. of Conservation. Within the Dept. of Conservation is the "Maine Conservation Corps" which is comprised of youth. This group works on trails during the summer months, throughout the State, using "trail techniques". The application process is available from April – November to take advantage of the benefits for the following year; Tony will help with the application form for Committee to look at, at a next meeting.

Lester Kenway is an Appalachian Trail Club member who is Operations Mgr. of the Maine Conservation Corps crew and Tony suggested that we might want to contact Lester and have him come for a day and take a look at the Giant's Stairs and the Devil's Back. If we wanted a consultant, he might be someone we might consider.

Tide Mill - there is parking available.

Wharf Rd. – there may be some controversy relevant to that landing, right now.

Discovery Grant – did we receive it and which properties will it address?

Giant's Stairs – there was money appropriated for path improvement; the estimate exceeds appropriations but the caretaker, Bill Wells, will solicit ideas from Town Lands Committee and report back to the Selectmen.

TV Production – is still in "infancy stage" ; needs more time.

Devil's Back- **Jane** will check on the "**forever wild**" clause; she was able to get an overhead photo of Devil's Back from Jay Chace (Planning Office) and will check with Jay about overheads that are available of the Town landings.

New Business

Jane would like to be added to the list of those who wish to pick up a copy of the Minutes at the Town Office. (**Bernice, notify Linda Strickland**).

Jane brought it to our attention that Wallace Tobin passed away. "Toby" was a Town Lands Committee member until a year or so ago when his health required him to resign. Jane will send a card acknowledging that he will be missed. Toby accompanied John Loyd, Diane Gagne and me (Bernice) one foggy July day when John took us around to a few of the Town owned islands in his Whaler; we had no idea of Toby exceptional navigation expertise (as I learned from his obituary). A very humble man. How unfortunate that we didn't have time to get to know him better.

Tony reported extensive property damage done by ATVs to Town property behind Town Office area. Tony suggested that the Committee contact Bill Wells and utilize John Loyd's expertise ...and some reference to an article to come out in the Harpswell Anchor by Tulle Frazer (but don't know if there is a connection).

Lee and Bob will attend the Selectmen's meeting on Jan 11 to represent the Committee

Our February meeting will be Feb 6, 2007 @ 7 PM at the Town Office

Respectfully submitted,

Bernice Kenney